

ABSTRACT

Picture exchange systems have been shown to increase spoken language in individuals with disabilities, including cognitive disabilities. The purpose of the current study was to explore the effectiveness of using picture exchange to promote spoken requests in a young school-age child with severe language impairment. The present study employed a single-subject design. An intervention procedure was developed to teach the child conditional use of communicative requests using the spoken language modality. The intervention had three phases: baseline, intervention, and generalization. The results show a rapid increase in the number of spoken requests during intervention and generalization to a novel communication partner. These results add to the literature promoting the use of picture exchange systems to increase spontaneous spoken requests for a child with severe language impairments.

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